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April 20, 2007

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Portals II, Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

EX PARTE NOTICE

Re: High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 19, 2007, Brian Staihr and Jeff Lindsey, on behalf of Embarq, held a telephone conference with Peter Bluhm, Director of Regulatory Policy of the Vermont Public Service Board., and staff member of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. The discussion was fully consistent with Embarq's prior filings in this docket and focused on how universal service support can and should be better targeted to truly high-cost areas and tied to the carrier-of-last-resort obligation.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, one copy of this electronic notice is being filed in the above-referenced docket. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S Lanning

Director – Federal Regulatory

cc: Peter Bluhm